



## (U) SID's Interactions with Congress: Budget Jargon and RFIs

FROM: SIGINT Communications

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(U) Today is part 2 in our 3-part series on SID and Congress:

(U) *Budget Jargon*

(U//FOUO) As with everything else, the budget process has its own vocabulary. Here are a few terms you may hear:

- **Fence** : When NSA funding is fenced, it means we cannot spend those dollars until we satisfy certain requirements levied on us by Congress. Fences are associated with Congressional Directed Actions (CDAs).
- **With/Without Prejudice** : When a cut is taken "with prejudice", it means that NSA must take the cut from a specified project/program. If a cut is taken "without prejudice", we have the option of funding that program/project at the level we requested and taking that cut from elsewhere in the budget.
- **A not A** : Appropriated not Authorized. This occurs when the Appropriators provide funding for programs, but the Authorizers do not give NSA the authority to spend it.
- **Hollow Authority** : This occurs when the Authorizers give NSA the authority to spend funds, however, the Appropriators do not provide us with the dollars.
- **Congressional Member/Staffer** : The "member" is the senator or congressman. The "staffer" is just that--one of his staff. The staffers are led by a "staff director". Sensitive classified information is sometimes shared only with the staff director and members of Congress--not with the staffers-- to limit distribution as much as possible.

(U) *Where Are We in This Budget Process Now?*

(U//FOUO) Right now, the SSCI has just completed its mark up, while the other three committees are still working on theirs. SID LA has just completed many briefings related to the CBJB, to provide clarification or additional detail for the congressional staffers. Most of the congressional Requests for Information (RFIs) or briefings are centered on:

- SID support to Operation Iraqi Freedom;
- Data-sharing among Intelligence Community elements (allowing analysts from other agencies access to raw SIGINT data); and
- TRAILBLAZER.

(U//FOUO) The House Appropriations Committee Survey and Investigations (HAC S&I) is also investigating metrics for SIGINT collection programs. This is essentially a cost/benefit analysis of the various Expenditure Centers (ECs) for SIGINT collectors and enablers.

(U) *Which Congressional Staffers Do We Usually Deal With?*



**SERIES:**

### (U) SID and Congress

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(U//FOUO) SID often works with specific congressional staffers, as follows:

- HPSCI: Riley Perdue (majority staffer) and Beth Larson (minority staffer)
- SSCI: Jim Barnett
- HAC-Defense: Steve Nixon
- SAC-Defense: Jennifer Chartrand

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